

KETTERING
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1956

KETTERING
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

•

ANNUAL
REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1956

•

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
AMBULANCE SERVICE	9
AREA	5, 6
BIRTHS	5-7
CANCER	5, 6, 21
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT	10-18
CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES	9
DEATHS	5-8, 21
DIPHTHERIA	6, 19
DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN	19
DISINFECTION	12
DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE	11
DYSENTERY	20
ERYSIPELAS	19
FACTORIES ACTS	13
FOOD—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES	17, 18
FOOD POISONING	20
HOUSING	14-16
ICE CREAM	18
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS	16
INFANT MORTALITY	5-8
INFECTIOUS DISEASES	19-23
INFLUENZA	6
INTERNATIONAL VACCINATION	20
INTRODUCTORY LETTER	4
LABORATORY FACILITIES	9
MATERNAL MORTALITY	5-7
MEASLES	5, 6, 19
MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION	17, 18
MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTIONS	20
MILK SUPPLIES AND SAMPLES	17
MOVEABLE DWELLINGS	12
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT	9
NEO-NATAL MORTALITY	5-7
NURSING IN THE HOME	9
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM	19
PARATYPHOID FEVER	6, 19
PNEUMONIA	6, 8, 19
POLIOMYELITIS	5, 6, 8, 20
POPULATION	5-6
PUBLIC CLEANSING	11
PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS	3
PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS	15-16
PUERPERAL PYREXIA	19
SCARLET FEVER	19
SLAUGHTERHOUSES	17
SLUM CLEARANCE	15
SMALLPOX	20
SOCIAL CONDITIONS	6
STATISTICAL TABLES	5, 6, 7
TYPHOID FEVER	6, 19
TUBERCULOSIS	5, 6, 20, 21
VACCINATION	20
VERMINOUS DISINFESTATION	12
WATER SUPPLY	10
WHOOPING COUGH	5, 6, 19

Kettering Rural District Council

Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR A. DONOVAN LANE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

COUNCILLOR DENNIS E. HUTCHINSON, M.B.E., J.P., C.C.

Clerk to the Council:

MR. S. H. GILLARD

Members of the Public Health Committee: 1956

COUNCILLORS G. E. ALMOND, E. W. BARLOW, F. BUTLER, M. H. V. BURT, C. H. CHAMPION, C. T. L. HAKEWILL, E. H. J. MAHONEY, R. P. ROWNEY, W. SHARP, J. L. M. SINNETT, M.C., A. E. THODAY, M.B.E., J. A. B. TOWNSIN.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :

JAMES CARROLL, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., L.M., D.P.H., D.CH.

also holds the appointments of:

Medical Officer of Health, Burton Latimer Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Corby Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Desborough Urban District Council.

Medical Officer of Health, Rothwell Urban District Council.

School Medical Officer.

Secretary:

MISS M. W. LANGLEY.

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector:

CHARLES R. STARMER, M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A. (Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods).

FRANKLIN H. VALENTINE, M.R.SAN.I. (Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
75 LONDON ROAD,
KETTERING.

July, 1957.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Kettering Rural District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. GEORGE AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Circumstances of the Rural District for the year 1956. This report is prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 19/56 dated 11th December, 1956.

The population (Registrar General's Mid-Year Estimate) is 12,020 and the Vital Statistics in this report are based on this figure. The population increased by 50 on last year's figure, live births increased by 2 and the total deaths increased by 9. There were 2 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis. Deaths from all forms of Cancer showed a decrease of 7, and of these 4 were due to Cancer of the Lung. Heart and Circulatory Diseases accounted for 80 of the total of 144 deaths.

Section F of the report deals with notified Infectious Diseases. There were 134 cases of Infectious Disease as compared to 205 last year.

Sections C, D and E of the Report have been submitted by your Public Health Inspector and Surveyor. Section C deals with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area. Section D gives an account of the housing progress and the building programme. Section E deals with the Inspection and Supervision of Food.

In conclusion, I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Rural Council for their help and encouragement and Mr. Starmer for information supplied for this report and for his ever ready assistance throughout the year. I should also like to thank Mr. Gillard and staff for assistance on many matters throughout the year. Finally, I appreciate very much the assistance received from Miss Langley in compiling this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES CARROLL,
Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

The following is a summary of the principal statistics for the years
1952, 1953, 1954, 1955 & 1956

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Area (acres)	60,768	60,768	60,768	60,626	60,626
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	11,940	12,050	11,970	11,970	12,020
Number of Live Births	194	205	176	173	175
Legitimate	186	192	165	167	164
Illegitimate	8	13	11	6	11
Birth rate per 1,000 population ...	16.25	17.01	14.70	14.45	14.56
Number of Still Births	1	8	3	3	7
Legitimate	1	8	3	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	5.13	37.56	16.76	17.05	38.46
Rate per 1,000 population ...	0.08	0.66	0.25	0.25	0.58
Number of Deaths	130	123	120	135	144
Death rate per 1,000 population	10.89	10.21	10.03	11.28	11.98
Deaths from Pregnancy, Child- birth and Abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	30.93	39.02	11.36	17.34	17.14
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20.62	29.27	11.36	11.56	17.14
Deaths from all forms of Tuber- culosis	—	1	—	2	2
Deaths from Respiratory Tuber- culosis	—	1	—	2	2
Deaths from Malignant Neo- plasms	22	17	18	31	24
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	1	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under two years of age	—	—	—	—	—
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis ...	—	—	—	—	—

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area.—The area of the Rural District of Kettering is 60,626 acres. The density of population is 0.2 persons per acre and the housing factor is 3.08 persons per house (Summary of Vital Statistics Page 5).

Population.—The Registrar General's estimate of the resident population for the mid-year 1956 is 12,020. This shows an increase of 50 on last years figure. Live births out-numbered deaths by 31 for 1956.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1956)	...	...	...	...	3,895
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£130,511
Sum represented by Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£475

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are as follows :—Farming, Iron-stone Quarrying and manufacture of Iron and Steel, Steel Tubes and Clothing manufacture.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year :

LIVE BIRTHS						<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	164	86	78
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	11	5	6
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS						175	91	84
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population ... 14.56

STILL BIRTHS						<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTALS						7	4	3
						<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births ... 38.46

England and Wales ... 23.0

DEATHS						<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
						144	83	61
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (crude)						...	...	11.98
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (corrected)						...	...	12.22
Death rate from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion						...	...	—
Death rate of infants under one year of age :								
All infants per 1,000 live births						...	...	17.14
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births						...	...	18.29
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						...	...	—
Death rate from Measles (all ages)						...	...	—
Death rate from Whooping Cough (all ages)						...	...	—
Death rate from Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under two years of age)						...	...	—
Death rate from Malignant Neoplasms						...	...	2.00
Death rate from Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis						...	...	—
Death rate from Diphtheria						...	...	—
Death rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis						...	...	0.17
Death rate from Influenza						...	...	0.17
Death rate from Pneumonia						...	...	0.33
Death rate from Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers						...	...	—

Maternal Mortality Rates for :—	<i>Maternal Causes Excluding Abortion</i>	<i>Due to Abortion</i>	<i>Total Maternal Mortality</i>
England and Wales per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births 	0.46	0.10	0.56
Kettering Rural District	—	—	—

Deaths.—The comparability factor for 1956 was 1.02. The crude death rate per 1,000 population for 1956 was 11.98 which multiplied by the comparability factor of 1.02, supplied by the Registrar General, gives a corrected death rate of 12.22. This rate of 12.22 is the rate which, it is assumed, would be arrived at if the age and sex distribution of the population of the Kettering Rural District were distributed in the same proportion as that of England and Wales as a whole.

England and Wales	11.7
-------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

Births.—The following table shows the birth rate for 1956 together with the rate for England and Wales.

LIVE BIRTH RATES, 1956

A comparability factor has been issued for 1956 by the Registrar General which allows for the different age and sex distribution of Kettering Rural District and provides a basis for comparison with that of England and Wales as a whole.

Kettering Rural District	...	...	...	...	14.56
Kettering Rural District corrected by comparability factor 1.12	...	...	...	...	16.30
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.7

INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1956

Infant mortality is the number of deaths in children under one year of age per 1,000 live births. This is an indication of the environmental and social conditions of a community with special reference to housing, overcrowding, and maternity and child welfare.

Kettering Rural District	...	...	...	...	17.14
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	23.8

NEONATAL MORTALITY, 1956

Neonatal mortality is the number of deaths in children under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births.

Kettering Rural District	...	...	...	...	17.14
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	16.9

The causes of deaths in children under one year of age with age and sex distribution are given in the following table.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

<i>Age</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
2 hours	F.	Atelectasis. Prematurity. (Twin).
1 day	M.	Atelectasis. Prematurity. (Twin).
1 day	F.	Prematurity. P.M.

The registered causes of death were as follows :—

							<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	83	61	144
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm stomach	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
11.	Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
12.	Malignant neoplasm breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
13.	Malignant neoplasm uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	7	4	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	9	8	17
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	...	13	9	22
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	12	10	22
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	...	10	1	11
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	—	4	4
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	6
25.	Other disease of the respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
26.	Ulcer and stomach duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	8
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.**—Bacteriological examinations are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton and the Laboratory of the Kettering General Hospital. The following specimens were examined :

Faeces	59
--------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.**—The County Council is responsible for Ambulance Services. The St. John Ambulance Brigade carry out the Service on behalf of the County Council for Non-Infectious cases.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**—The County Council is responsible for the Home Nursing Service.

(d) **Treatment Centres and Clinics.**—A County Council Welfare Clinic is held monthly in the following parishes. A Medical Officer attends each session :—

Broughton—3rd Monday.

Geddington—1st Tuesday.

Gretton—4th Friday.

Weldon—2nd Monday.

The treatment of Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases is carried out by the Regional Hospital Board.

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47.—This Act gives Local Authorities powers to enable them to deal expeditiously with the certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. No formal action was taken under this Section of this Act during the year. A number of old folk living on their own were visited during the year and helped in many ways.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.—The whole of the North-West Regional Scheme of the Mid-Northants Water Board was completed during the year in so far as the installation of mains was concerned. Although the Water Board was not in a position to give full supplies of water to the villages in this area, pending the completion of Pitsford Reservoir Scheme, temporary stand-pipe supplies were provided at suitable points in villages where other supplies were inadequate.

The bringing into full use of these mains is now dependent upon the completion of certain pumping installations and service reservoirs, etc., and when these are completed the whole of the district will be served with mains water supply.

The regular sampling of the water supplies under their control is carried out by the Mid-Northants Water Board, both for bacteriological and chemical examination.

The following table headed Water Supplies gives detailed information concerning the position in each of the thirty parishes at the end of 1956.

WATER SUPPLIES						
Parish	Estimated Population	Total No. of Houses in Parish	No. of Houses obtaining water from piped supplies	No. of Houses obtaining water from private and public wells		
Ashley	176	61	11	50		
Brampton Ash	157	51	20	31		
Braybrooke	265	90	78	12		
Broughton	1554	539	492	47		
Cottingham	606	234	153	81		
Cranford	467	173	173	—		
Cransley	310	119	91	28		
Dingley	82	29	22	7		
East Carlton	255	70	67	3		
Geddington	1165	461	399	62		
Grafton Underwood	312	105	105	—		
Gretton	1049	305	272	33		
Harrington	144	48	48	—		
Loddington	325	129	91	38		
Middleton	284	90	25	65		
Newton	116	34	34	—		
Oakley	272	86	66	20		
Orton	62	19	17	2		
Pytchley	514	180	179	1		
Rockingham	180	57	57	—		
Rushton	393	144	102	42		
Stanion	307	117	90	27		
Stoke Albany	273	98	78	20		
Sutton Bassett	71	26	6	20		
Thorpe Malsor	107	46	46	—		
Warkton	166	54	54	—		
Weekley	207	61	61	—		
Weldon	1652	450	435	15		
Weston-by-Welland	112	47	16	31		
Wilbarston	494	168	48	120		
TOTALS	12077	4091	3336	755		

Drainage and Sewerage.—Since the end of the war the Council's aim has been to provide modern drainage schemes in all the villages. Great progress has already been made towards this end and has accounted for the installation of sewerage schemes in the villages of Broughton, Geddington, Gretton, Weldon, Rockingham, Braybrooke, Grafton Underwood and Rushton.

During the year under review, the schemes at Grafton Underwood and Rushton (second part of scheme), were completed, and the scheme at Loddington progressed satisfactorily during the year but was not completed.

Several other schemes have already been prepared and are in various stages of development, and it is earnestly hoped that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government will be able to allow further schemes to proceed in the near future in order that the Council can continue to rid the district of the obsolete insanitary pail closets, wherever they exist.

Unfortunately the present financial restrictions on capital expenditure for sewerage schemes has inevitably slowed down the process of providing proper drainage facilities in order that the pail closet may be abolished in those areas which are still awaiting sewerage installations.

The nine sewerage disposal works in the district have functioned satisfactorily throughout the year, except in one case, that of Grafton Underwood, where some difficulty was experienced due to the high concentration of farm yard effluents which discharge into the sewer. As the number of properties connected to the sewers increase, this problem is likely to be overcome, otherwise all effluents from the various works have proved to be of a fairly good standard.

In order to deal with the large number of septic tanks and cesspools throughout the district, the Council operates a mechanical cesspool emptying vehicle which is available for use by private owners, at a small nominal charge.

Household Refuse and Night Soil Collection.—The Authority operate a refuse collection service throughout the whole of the district which is carried out on a fortnightly schedule. Proper covered refuse vehicles are in use for this service and the work has been satisfactorily maintained throughout the year. Disposal of the refuse is by tipping into disused quarries in the area, all of which are located in remote situations.

All refuse tips in use in the district are regularly inspected in order to detect any verminous infestations, and regular spraying of the tips with insecticides is carried out.

In addition, the Council engage a private contractor to undertake the work of collection and disposal of nightsoil from all the premises in the district provided with pail closets. This work is carried out on a weekly schedule and the disposal of the nightsoil is by tipping into the main outfall sewer of Kettering Borough at a suitable point outside the precincts of the town. The approximate number of buckets in the district at the present time is 657, a number which diminishes from year to year as properties throughout the district are connected to new sewerage schemes and modern sanitation is provided in place of the pail closets.

Rodent Control.—The Council employ a full-time rodent operator, who carries out rodent control work throughout the district. His work includes investigating all complaints of rat and mice infestation and includes routine treatments against rat infestation of all sewage works, sewers and refuse tips.

The following table gives a summary of the work carried out by the operator throughout the year, and again it is pleasing to note that only two heavy infestations were encountered. There is no doubt that this satisfactory state of affairs is in no small degree due to the continued work of the operator in tracing and eradicating all instances of rat infestation brought to the notice of the Council.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises Inspected</i>	<i>Degree of Infestation</i>			<i>Treatments</i>		<i>Estimated No. of Vermin destroyed</i>
		<i>Heavy 50-100</i>	<i>Medium 12-50</i>	<i>Small 1-12</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Treatments</i>	
Dwelling Houses ...	707	—	41	433	1322	474	1632
Council's Refuse Tips							
Sewage Works etc. ...	31	—	4	20	72	24	96
Business Premises ...	27	—	4	—	16	4	17
Agricultural Premises ...	66	2	6	1	36	9	232

Moveable Dwellings.—During the year the Council granted licences for the use of nine caravans stationed in various parts of the district. In all cases the sites were licensed only for a single caravan, and regular visits of inspection were made in order to ascertain that the sites were being kept in a satisfactory condition.

Verminous Premises and Insect Infestations.—During the year the following infestations of insects were discovered and effective remedial action was taken in each case by the use of appropriate insecticidal spraying.

Cockroach Infestations	...	...	...	4
Silverfish Infestations	...	...	...	6
Ant Infestations	...	...	...	18
Cricket Infestations	...	...	...	4
Cluster Fly Infestations	...	...	...	6

Disinfections.—70 visits were made throughout the year to houses in which infectious diseases of various kinds had occurred. In 21 cases disinfection of infected rooms, bedding and clothing was carried out.

Factories.—The following table indicates the number of factories of each category in the district, and shows the number of inspections made and contraventions discovered and remedied during the year.

1. **Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health :—

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	12	3	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	47	37	1	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises). ...	6	8	1	—
TOTAL	69	57	5	—

2. **Cases in which defects were found** :—

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which Prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
		Reme- died (3)	To H.M. Inspec- tor (4)	By H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature S.3.) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) :					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	5	5	—	—	—

SECTION D

HOUSING

Although considerably slowed down owing to the restricted financial position, the Council's housing schemes continued throughout the year and resulted in an additional 33 houses being completed.

The slowing down effect on the housing programme is shown by the fact that, at the end of the year, there were only two bungalows under construction in the whole of the area.

The following table gives a summary of the progress on the various housing sites throughout the year.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Pre-War Houses</i>	<i>Post-War Houses Completed</i>	<i>under Construction</i>	<i>Completed in 1956</i>
Ashley	4	5	—	—
Brampton Ash	2	—	—	—
Braybrooke	14	14	—	—
Broughton	71	102	—	8
Cottingham & Middleton	26	78	—	3
Cranford	6	25	—	3
Cransley	10	20	—	—
Dingley	—	4	—	—
East Carlton	—	2	—	—
Geddington	35	94	—	4
Grafton Underwood	—	—	—	—
Gretton	32	65	—	—
Harrington	—	8	—	—
Loddington	4	33	—	6
Newton	—	—	—	—
Oakley	—	—	—	—
Orton	—	2	—	—
Pytchley	22	49	—	2
Rockingham	—	6	—	—
Rushton	—	18	—	—
Stanion	—	26	—	—
Stoke Albany	12	14	—	—
Sutton Bassett	6	—	—	—
Thorpe Malsor	—	10	2	—
Warkton	—	—	—	—
Weekley	—	—	—	—
Weldon	7	79	—	4
Weston-by-Welland	6	6	—	—
Wilbarston	26	23	—	3
TOTALS	283	683	2	33

As will be seen from the above table, 683 Council houses have been completed in post-war years. In addition to the Council houses which were built during the year, 18 private houses were completed and a further 14 were in course of erection at the end of the year.

The re-housing of the families accommodated in converted military-huts on the Grafton Underwood Aerodrome, continued during the year to good effect. There is now only one family remaining to be re-housed.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

Slum Clearance.—The Council's programme of Slum Clearance, which involves dealing with some 298 individual properties which are considered to be unfit for habitation, had not reached full momentum by the end of the year. One of the major difficulties confronting the Council in this respect is the problem of providing suitable alternative accommodation for the people displaced from the unfit houses. The Council have built a pair of old persons bungalows at Loddington as an experiment in this direction, but unfortunately the cost of building and the present financial position have resulted in the rents being very much higher than was originally intended. Since a large majority of unfit houses in the Rural District are occupied by old people, many of them old age pensioners, it is important that, in order to attract them into better accommodation, it should be available at a low rent.

It will be seen from the subsequent table, under Section 3 (c), 34 houses were dealt with under the Slum Clearance provisions during the year.

Public Health and Housing Acts.—Work under these Acts for the purpose of rectifying defects and abating nuisances has been continued throughout the year and the following tables give details of the routine work carried out :—

(1) Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

1.	(a)	No. of houses inspected for defects	233
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	372
2.	(a)	No. of houses inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations	...	...	34
	(b)	Inspections made for the purpose	...	...	82
3.		No. of houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation			34

(2) Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notice :—
No. of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 176

(3) Action under Statutory Powers :—

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

1.	No. of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	—
2.	No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit by owners or the Local Authority after service of formal notice	...	...	...	1

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

1.	No. of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	—
2.	No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after serving notices	...	...	...	—

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—							
1.	No. of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	9
2.	No. of houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	...	...	9
3.	No. of houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11, and still in force	...	...	...	...	...	25

A summary of sanitary defects remedied during the year is as follows:—

Drains relaid or repaired	...	...	...	41
Blocked drains cleared	...	...	...	12
Inspection Chambers repaired	...	...	...	29
Inspection Chambers provided	...	...	...	73
Vent and Soil Pipes provided or repaired	...	...	...	16
Pail Closets converted to W.C.'s	...	...	...	32
W.C. compartments repaired	...	...	...	16
Septic Tanks and Cesspools repaired	...	...	...	4
Wells and Pumps repaired	...	...	...	14
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	30
Rain-water guttering repaired	...	...	...	15
Dampness in walls remedied	...	...	...	23
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	27
Doors repaired	...	...	...	18
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	29
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	30
Sub-floor ventilation provided	...	...	...	4
Handrails provided to staircases	...	...	...	9
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	21
Ventilation to pantries provided	...	...	...	12
Paving repaired or relaid	...	...	...	13
Washing Coppers repaired	...	...	...	7
Sinks provided	...	...	...	37
Internal water service provided	...	...	...	128
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	32

Improvement Grants.—The Council has again encouraged the improvement and re-conditioning of sub-standard houses, by the giving of Improvement Grants under the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. By this means, owners receive a grant from the Council amounting up to fifty per cent of the cost of the work of improvement on any house, provided that the improved premises comply with the standards laid down by the Act.

During the year 80 such applications were received by the Council of which 79 were approved.

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply.—The following table gives a summary of licences and registrations granted by the Council during the year, under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949/54.

Registered Distributors of Milk	...	...	...	...	6
Registered Dairies	...	...	...	...	6
Licensed Pasteurised Dealers	...	...	...	...	6
Licensed Tuberculin Tested Dealers	...	...	...	...	6
Licensed Sterilized Dealers	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies granted supplementary licences to retail Pasteurised Milk within the Rural District	...	...	...	...	8
Dairies granted supplementary licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk within the Rural District	...	...	...	...	7
Dairies granted supplementary licences to retail Sterilized Milk within the Rural District	...	...	...	...	1

All supplies of milk handled by registered dairymen etc., in the Council's area are designated supplies.

During the year visits of inspection of the various dairies were made, and conditions were found to be of a satisfactory standard.

Meat Inspection.—Four private slaughterhouses are licensed in the Rural District, at all of which regular killing of animals was carried out throughout the year. All animals killed have been inspected and the following cases show the number of animals inspected together with meat found to be diseased and condemned :—

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep & Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	332	—	80	2164	1050	—
Number inspected	332	—	80	2164	1050	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	43	—	—	36	26	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	12.95%	—	—	1.663%	2.476%	—
Tuberculosis only :						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	—	—	—	28	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.831%	—	—	—	2.666%	—
Cysticercosis :						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Diseased Meat Condemned

Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	858 lbs.
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	1,873 lbs.

All meat that is found to be diseased and condemned, is suitably stained to prevent it being sold for human consumption and all such diseased meat is subsequently collected for rendering down for industrial purposes.

During the year 20 persons were licensed by the Council under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1954 for the purpose of slaughtering animals. Throughout the year regular visits of inspection were made to the six butchers' shops in the district and it was found that they were kept in a satisfactory manner.

Registration of Food Preparing Premises.—The registration of premises for the manufacture or sale of ice cream, or for the manufacture of preserved foods under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, continued during the year. Frequent visits of inspection were made to such premises in order to ensure that conditions conformed with the Regulations. The number of premises registered are as follows :—

Storage and sale of pre-packed ice cream	...	...	...	42
Manufacture and sale of ice cream (cold-mix)	...	...	...	1
Manufacture of sausage, or potted or preserved food	...	...	...	6

Bakehouses.—There are now 7 bakehouses in various parishes in the district, which is a reduction of two from the previous year. All of these bakehouses now have mechanical power installed which brings them also under the control of Her Majesty's Inspector of Factories.

Fried Fish Shops.—Only two premises of this kind remain in the district, one at Weldon and one at Broughton. The owner of the Broughton premises has been requested and has undertaken to carry out certain improvements to bring the premises up to an improved standard.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases.—There were 134 cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year as compared with 205 last year.

Diphtheria.—No cases occurred during the year. The last notified case of this disease was in 1945, and the last death was in 1943. This clearly points out the value of Diphtheria Immunisation but it must be emphasised that Immunisation must be continuously practised to keep this dangerous infection at bay.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis.—The following table shows the number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to the 31st December, 1956 :—

Age at 31.12.56 ...	Under 1	1	2	3	4
i.e. Born in Year ...	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
No. immunised	38	109	136	132	131
Age at 31.12.56 ...	5-9	10-14	Total		
i.e. Born in Year ...	1947-51	1942-46	Under 15		
No. immunised	722	699	1,967		

The number of children who were immunised in 1956 is as follows :—

Under 5 years ...	...	...	...	...	8
5 to 15 years ...	...	...	...	...	—
TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	8
Boosters ...	...	...	...	...	27

The number of inoculations carried out using Combined Diphtheria/Pertussis Vaccine were as follows :—

	Under 1	1-4	5-14	Total	Boosters
Combined Diphtheria/Pertussis	97	48	1	146	24

Whooping Cough.—6 cases were notified as compared to 15 last year. All cases recovered.

The number of inoculations carried out using Whooping Cough (Pertussis) Vaccine only were as follows :—

	Under 1	1-4	5-14	Total	Booster
Whooping Cough only ...	—	—	—	—	4

Scarlet Fever.—23 cases of this infection were notified as compared with 6 last year. 1 case was removed to hospital and all recovered.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.—No cases of these diseases were notified during the year.

Erysipelas.—1 case was notified during the year.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—No cases of this infection were notified as compared to two last year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—No case of this infection was notified during the year.

Pneumonia.—3 cases were notified during the year as compared with 8 cases last year. 1 case died.

Measles.—There were 83 cases notified as compared with 155 cases

last year. The incidence was confined to children under 15 years of age. No deaths resulted from this illness.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—No cases of this disease were notified compared to 3 cases last year. The last death in the Rural District from this disease was in 1950.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.—The following table shows the number of children who were vaccinated against Poliomyelitis during 1956 :—

Under 1	1—4	5—9	10—14	Total
—	14	21	—	35

Meningococcal Infection.—No cases were notified.

Dysentery.—18 cases of Sonne Dysentery were notified compared to 13 cases in 1955.

Food Poisoning.—No cases of this disease were notified during the year.

Smallpox.—No cases occurred in the Rural District.

Vaccination.—Vaccination figures for 1956 were as follows :—

	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Primary	67	6	2	4	79
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	6	6

For comparison purposes the figures for 1955 were :—

	Under 1	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Primary	52	4	1	2	59
Re-vaccination ...	—	—	—	7	7

It is encouraging to note that the number of Primary Vaccinations carried out during 1956 showed an increase on the figures for 1955. Every effort should be made to have as many infants as possible vaccinated and the third month of life is the best time for Primary Vaccination.

International Vaccination.—The International forms for Smallpox and Cholera (for completion by the doctor) must be obtained by the traveller himself and taken to the doctor: it is NOT for the doctor, or a Local Authority or their Medical Officer of Health, to supply them. The forms can usually be obtained by the traveller (free) from the Company arranging his transport—otherwise he can get them from the Ministry of Health, Savile Row, London, W.1. Special attention is drawn to the note on these forms concerning their being stamped with an approved stamp by the Medical Officer of Health, after vaccination.

My thanks are due to the County Medical Officer of Health for the immunisation and vaccination figures shown in this section.

TUBERCULOSIS

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.—The regulations empower the Council to prevent persons suffering from Tuberculosis to engage in the milk trade. No action was taken during 1956.

During the year 10 cases of Respiratory and 1 case of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were notified and of these 2 cases were Inward Transfers. (*An Inward Transfer is a person already suffering from Tuberculosis who has come to live in the Rural District*).

There were 2 deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis in 1956 and 1 case was removed from the Tuberculosis Register as the result of death from other causes. 2 cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis and 1 case of Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis were removed from the Register as cured.

The number of cases in the Register at the end of 1956 was as follows:

RESPIRATORY			NON-RESPIRATORY			Grand
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Total
24	25	49	4	10	14	63

Number of Deaths and Death Rates from Tuberculosis and Cancer 1956

The provisional numbers of deaths and death rate per million population for England and Wales during the year 1956 are as follows :—

	Number			Rate		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
Respiratory						
Tuberculosis ...	3,533	1,318	4,851	164	57	109
Other Tuberculosis	271	251	522	13	11	12
Cancer of Lung and						
Bronchus	15,615	2,570	18,185	726	111	407
Other Cancer ...	33,317	41,199	74,516	1,548	1,780	1,668

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1956

Age Period	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	1	3	—	—
25—	1	1	—	—
35—	—	1	—	1
45—	1	—	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—
65—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	5	5	—	1

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1956

Age Period	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	—	—
5—	—	—	—	—
15—	—	—	—	—
25—	—	—	—	—
35—	—	—	—	—
45—	—	—	—	—
55—	1	—	—	—
65—	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	2	—	—	—

AGE INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis), 1956

Diseases	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65+	All Ages	Removed to Hospital	Deaths	Age Unknown
Scarlet Fever	23	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	6	—	—	—
Measles	83	—	—	—
Pneumonia	3	—	1	—
Sonne Dysentery	18	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	134	1	1	—

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis), 1956

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever	1	—	1	—	2	—	3	—	2	5	5	4	23
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	2	6
Measles	29	8	5	5	—	3	27	5	—	—	1	—	83
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
Sonne Dysentery	3	10	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	18
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	33	19	10	6	2	3	35	5	3	5	6	7	134

